

**In the Claims:**

Please add new claims 65-73 as follows:

65. (New) A stable pharmaceutical formulation comprising:  
one or more amino acids which is susceptible to formation of a lactam;  
one or more stabilizers to inhibit the formation of said lactam, said stabilizer  
comprising a composition that is known to reduce ionic activity; and

$\phi =$  less than 20 ppm of an anion.

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112, 2nd

Known by whom?  
reduce by how much,  
anionic activity

66. (New) A formulation comprising:  
at least one amino acid which is susceptible to formation of a lactam;  
one or more stabilizers to inhibit the formation of said lactam, the stabilizer  
being one which is known to reduce ionic activity; and

$\phi =$  less than 20 ppm of an anion from a mineral acid.

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67. (New) A process for forming a stable pharmaceutical formulation containing less than 20  
ppm of an anion, comprising the step of treating an amino acid susceptible to formation of a  
lactam with a stabilizer to inhibit the formation of said lactam.

68. (New) A stable pharmaceutical formulation comprising:  
one or more active agents that are susceptible to degradation caused by  
electronegative ions;

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one or more stabilizers to inhibit the degradation; and

$\phi =$  less than 20 ppm of an anion.

69. (New) A pharmaceutical unit dosage form of an amino acid susceptible to lactam  
formation comprising:  
an amino acid which is susceptible to lactam formation;

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